

MEMORANDUM

September 29, 2023

TO:

Mayor and City Council Members

FROM:

Brian K. Riblet, City Manager

SUBJECT:

City Council Business Session of Wednesday, October 4, 2023

As a reminder, City Council is scheduled to meet in Business Session on Wednesday, October 4, 2023 at 6:00 p.m.

Business Session

- 1. Call to Order
- 2. Roll Call
- 3. Pledge of Allegiance
- 4. Special Presentation
- 5. Guest and Residents
- 6. Legislation for Consideration this Evening

Since all following legislation has been made available to the public before this evening's meeting it is moved that Council accept the legislative Agenda and read all legislation by title only.

Voice Vote

Pending Legislation

There is no pending legislation

New Legislation

a. A Resolution Accepting the Amounts and Rates as Determined by The Budget Commission and Authorizing the Necessary Tax Levies and Certifying Them to The County Auditor — (Mr. Suer) Information has been previously supplied on this Resolution that, if passed, will accept the rates and amounts determined by the Hamilton County Budget Commission. As a State of Ohio taxing authority

and pursuant to the Ohio Revised Code, the City is required to adopt an annual tax budget. City Council adopted the Tax Budget on July 5, 2023, and then submitted it to the Hamilton County Auditor for review by that office and the Hamilton County Budget Commission. Those reviews did not generate any questions and the proposed Tax Budget was accepted by the Budget Commission and Auditor. City Council is requested to act to accept the Budget Commission's rates and amounts, which would result in the estimated collections as specified in the City's 2024 Tax Budget. This action will then permit the Budget Commission to collect property taxes at the rates established for the upcoming year.

Move for passage of the Resolution

Explain

Roll Call Vote

b. An Ordinance to Make Appropriations for Current Expenses and Other Expenditures of the City of Montgomery, State of Ohio During the Fiscal Year Ending December 31, 2024 — (Mr. Suer) Information has been previously supplied on this Ordinance that, if approved, establishes the City's budget for fiscal year 2024. These documents were presented to and reviewed with City Council at the September 14 Budget Review meeting. As a result of these discussions, any changes to the budget will be forthcoming and will be presented prior to the final reading of the Ordinance at the December 6 Business Session.

Move for passage of the first reading of the Ordinance

Voice Vote

Explain

Roll Call Vote

The second reading will be held at the November 1, 2023 Business Session. The third reading of the Ordinance will be held at the December 6, 2023 Business Session with adoption of the Ordinance requested at that meeting.

- 7. Administration Report
- 8. Minutes September 14, 2023 Budget Review Session; September 20, 2023 Work Session
- 9. Mayor's Court Report
- 10. Other Business
- 11. Executive Session

12. Adjournment

Should you have any questions or concerns regarding this information, please do not hesitate to contact me.

C: Connie Gaylor, Executive Assistant/Clerk of Council Department Heads
Terry Donnellon, Law Director

CITY COUNCIL BUSINESS SESSION AGENDA



10101 Montgomery Road • Montgomery, Ohio 45242 (513) 891-2424 • Fax (513) 891-2498

October 4, 2023 City Hall 6:00 p.m.

- 1. Call to Order
- 2. Roll Call
- 3. Pledge of Allegiance
- 4. Special Presentation
- 5. Guest and Residents
- 6. Legislation for Consideration for this Evening

Since all following legislation has been made available to the public before this evening's meeting it is moved that Council accept the legislative Agenda and read all legislation by title only.

Voice Vote

Pending Legislation

There is no pending legislation

New Legislation

a. A Resolution Accepting the Amounts and Rates as Determined by The Budget Commission and Authorizing the Necessary Tax Levies and Certifying Them to The County Auditor —(Mr. Suer)

Move for passage of the Resolution

Explain

Roll Call Vote

b. <u>An Ordinance to Make Appropriations for Current Expenses and Other Expenditures of the City of Montgomery, State of Ohio During the Fiscal Year Ending December 31, 2024</u>—(Mr. Suer)

Move for passage of the first reading of the Ordinance

Voice Vote

Explain

Roll Call Vote

The second reading will be held at the November 1, 2023 Business Session. The third reading of the Ordinance will be held at the December 6, 2023 Business Session with adoption of the Ordinance requested at that meeting.

- 7. Administration Report
- 8. Approval of Minutes- September 14, 2023 Budget Review Session; September 20, 2023 Work Session
- 9. Mayor's Court Report
- 10. Other Business
- 11. Executive Session
- 12. Adjournment
- C: Connie Gaylor, Executive Assistant/Clerk of Council Department Heads
 Terry Donnellon, Law Director

RESOLUTION NO. , 2023

A RESOLUTION ACCEPTING THE AMOUNTS AND RATES AS DETERMINED BY THE HAMILTON COUNTY BUDGET COMMISSION AND AUTHORIZING THE NECESSARY TAX LEVIES AND CERTIFYING THEM TO THE COUNTY AUDITOR

WHEREAS, this Council, in accordance with the provisions of law, has previously adopted a Tax Budget for the next succeeding fiscal year commencing January 1, 2024; and

WHEREAS, the Budget Commission of Hamilton County, Ohio, has certified its action thereon to the Montgomery City Council together with an estimate by the County Auditor of the rate of each tax necessary to be levied by this Council, and what part is within the ten-mill tax limitation and what part of the levied taxes is outside the internal ten-mill limitation.

NOW THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, by the Council of the City of Montgomery,
Hamilton County, Ohio, that:

SECTION 1. The rates, as determined by the Budget Commission in its certification, as set forth on the attached Schedule A, are hereby accepted.

SECTION 2. There is hereby levied on the City of Montgomery's tax duplicate the rate of each tax necessary to be levied without and within the ten-mill limitation, as detailed on attached Schedule A, which Schedule A is adopted by reference as if fully restated herein.

SECTION 3. This Resolution shall be in full force and effect from and after its passage.

PASSED		
ATTEST	Connie M. Gaylor, Clerk of Council	Craig D. Margolis, Mayor

APPROVED AS TO FORM

Terrence M. Donnellon, Law Director



County of Hamilton

BRIGID KELLY

AUDITOR

COUNTY ADMINISTRATION BUILDING 138 EAST COURT STREET CINCINNATI, OHIO 45202

August 11, 2023

Maura Gray, Finance Director City of Montgomery 10101 Montgomery Road Cincinnati, Ohio 45242

Dear Ms. Gray:

The tax rates and estimated revenue shown below will be presented to the Budget Commission for approval on September 19, 2023.

The estimates have been prepared using approximately 97% of the current duplicate for real property, and a conservative increase for new construction. Due to a pending petition for reassessment filed by Duke Energy Ohio, approximately 92% of the current duplicate for public utility was used. Included in the estimates are all state reimbursements for the non-business and owner occupancy credits, as well as the homestead exemption. Worksheets showing these calculations are enclosed for your reference.

Please review the tax rates and estimated revenues. If you have any questions, please contact Robin Sinclair at (513) 946-4118, by September 11, 2023.

FUND General Fire/EMS

4.50 11.55 2024 ESTIMATED REVENUE \$3,280,140 5,514,925

Sincerely,

BRIGID KELLY, AUDITOR HAMILTON COUNTY, OHIO

BK/kc

IVE E	RES/AG 537,800,000	EFFECTIVE RATE	OTHER 89,000,000	FULL	PUPP 11,800,000	TANG	S РР	TOTAL 638,600.000			TOTAL
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		REVENUE			
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DNAL	2,186,760	Other local Taxes	0	TOTAL EXPENDITURES	13,396,487
0	2,100,760	Estate Tax	0		
	1.093.380	Cigarette Tax	152	LGF - County	189,555
0	1,093,380	Liguor Tax	21,210	Financial Institutions	0
		LGF-State	52,520	LGF - Revenue Assistance	0
0	3,280,140	0	0	Library & LGF Revenue Asst	0
	555 447	Grants	2,000		
	373,147	Interest Income	650,000	REQUIRED TAX LEVY	13,535,874
in the second second	U	Special Assessments	0		
			250,000		
0	2,906,993	Bldg & Construction Permits		The state of the s	
		Charges for Services	374,440	Real Estate - 0111	2,906,993
0	373,147	Fines, Licenses & Permits	76,025	Personal Property - 0113	2,300,333
_		Miscellaneous	75,550		o o
0	3,280,140	Transfers In	500	TPP Reimbursement - 0141	373,147
_	-,,-	Advances	0	Rollback & Homestead - 0142	3/3,14/
		TOTAL REVENUE	9,986,397	PUPP - Reimbursement - 0143	•
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THESH	0.15	TOTAL RESOURCES	26,742,806	TOTAL TAX LEVY	3,280,140
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	TOTAL			REVENUE		8,484,000	TOTAL RESOURCES		26,742,806	
INAL 0	2,186,760			Other local Ta	.vac	0,464,000	TOTAL RESOURCES		13,396,487	
U	2,100,700			Estate Tax	INCO	Ü	TOTAL EXPENDITURES		13,330,767	
0	1,093,380			Cigarette Tax		152	t.GF - County		189,555	
				Liquor Tax		21,210	Financial Institutions		0	
0	3,280,140			.GF-State		52,520	LGF - Revenue Assistance		0	
				0		0	Library & LGF Revenue Asst		0	
	373,147		(Grants		2,000				
	0			Interest Incor		650,000	REQUIRED TAX LEVY		13,535,874	
				Special Asses		0				
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				Miscellaneous		75,550	Personal Property - 0113		0	
0	3,280,140			Transfers In		500	TPP Reimbursement - 014:	1	0	
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ND	0.05									

ORDINANCE NO.

, 2023

AN ORDINANCE TO MAKE APPROPRIATIONS FOR CURRENT EXPENSES AND OTHER EXPENDITURES OF THE CITY OF MONTGOMERY, STATE OF OHIO, DURING THE FISCAL YEAR ENDING DECEMBER 31, 2024

WHEREAS, Council previously did approve and submit to the Budget Commission a Budget for revenues and expenses for the fiscal year commencing January 1, 2024 and ending December 31, 2024; and

WHEREAS, the proposed Budget has been accepted and approved, and Council does desire to appropriate funds according to the Budget to meet current expenses and other expenditures for the 2024 fiscal year.

NOW THEREFORE, BE IT ORDAINED by the Council of the City of Montgomery, Hamilton County, Ohio, that:

SECTION 1. Commencing January 1, 2024 and for the fiscal year ending December 31, 2024, in order to provide for the current expenses and other expenditures of the City, the sums detailed on the attached Budget schedule are hereby appropriated as if such schedule is fully set forth herein.

SECTION 2. This Ordinance shall be in full force and effect from and after the earliest period allowed by law.

PASSED:	
ATTEST: Connie M. Gaylor, Clerk of Council	Craig D. Margolis, Mayor

APPROVED AS TO FORM:

Terrence M. Donnellon, Law Director

Attachment to 2024 Appropriation Ordinance

General Fund

101 Police Department	Personnel Nonpersonnel	3,885,028 369,600
	Total	\$4,254,628
106 Disaster Services	Personnel	0
	Nonpersonnel	9,300
	Total	\$9,300
201 Public Health and Welfare	Personnel	59,500
	Nonpersonnel	0
	Total	\$59,500
301 Recreation	Personnel	284,064
	Nonpersonnel	127,000
	Total	\$411,064
303 City Parks	Personnel	363,825
	Nonpersonnel	402,000
	Total	\$765,825
317 Swaim and Terwilliger Lodges	Personnel	0
	Nonpersonnel	69,800
	Total	\$69,800
321 Special Events	Personnel	0
	Nonpersonnel	136,500
	Total	\$136,500
405 Landmarks Commission	Personnel	0
	Nonpersonnel	19,250
	Total	\$19,250
406 City Beautiful	Personnel	0
**	Nonpersonnel	178,028
	Total	\$178,028
407 Development	Personnel	464,088
	Nonpersonnel	620,800
	Total	\$1,084,888
408 Planning Commission	Personnel	0
	Nonpersonnel	106,900
	Total	\$106,900
409 Historical Building Operations	Personnel	0
	Nonpersonnel	51,025
	Total	\$51,025
701 City Administration	Personnel	762,462
	Nonpersonnel	35,900
	Total	\$798,362
702 Finance Department	Personnel	602,770
	Nonpersonnel	543,700
	Total	\$1,146,470
703 Legal Administration	Personnel	0
	Nonpersonnel Total	240,500 \$240,500
	IOIAI	\$ 240, 500

705 City Council	Personnel Nonpersonnel Total	10,836 14,500 \$25,336
707 Mayor's Court	Personnel Nonpersonnel Total	38,007 75,500 \$113,507
708 Civil Service Commission	Personnel Nonpersonnel Total	0 5,150 \$5,150
709 Public Works Administration	Personnel Nonpersonnel Total	646,304 258,900 \$905,204
712 Community and Information Services	Personnel Nonpersonnel	431,672 248,950
715 General Government	Total Personnel Nonpersonnel	\$680,622 10,000 2,625,850
Total General Fund	Total Personnel Nonpersonnel	\$2,635,850 7,558,556 6,139,153
⟨Total Includes General Fund Transfers/Cash Advances Out	Total	13,697,709 536,550
Special I	Revenue Funds	
219 Community Oriented Policing Solutions	Personnel Nonpersonnel Total	162,011 3,650 \$165,661
223 Fire Department	Personnel Nonpersonnel Total	4,262,724 1,085,970 \$5,348,694
261 Street Maintenance and Repair	Personnel Nonpersonnel Total	819,639 411,496 \$1,231,135
209 Memorial Fund	Personnel Nonpersonnel Total	0 6,500 \$6,500
210 Parks & Recreation	Personnel Nonpersonnel Total	0 500 \$500
214 OneOhio Fund	Personnel Nonpersonnel Total	0 500 \$500
215 Law Enforcement	Personnel Nonpersonnel Total	0 104,500 \$104,500
216 Drug Enforcement	Personnel Nonpersonnel	0 400

217 DUI Enforcement and Education	Personnel Nonpersonnel Total	0 1,000 \$1,000
218 Mayor's Court Technology Fund	Personnel Nonpersonnel Total	0 11,125 \$11,125
220 Law Enforcement Assistance Fund	Personnel Nonpersonnel Total	0 1,000 \$1,000
227 Environmental Impact Area I	Personnel Nonpersonnel Total	0 8,000 \$8,000
228 Environmental Impact Area II	Personnel Nonpersonnel Total	0 160,150 \$160,150
229 Environmental Impact Area III	Personnel Nonpersonnel Total	0 10,000 \$10,000
230 Environmental Impact Area IV	Personnel Nonpersonnel Total	5,000 \$5,000
265 State Highway Fund	Personnel Nonpersonnel Total	0 41,500 \$41,500
266 Permissive MVL Fund	Personnel Nonpersonnel Total	0 78,000 \$78,000
275 Municipal Pool	Personnel Nonpersonnel Total	0 317,653 \$317,653
485 Arts and Amenities	Personnel Nonpersonnel Total	0 99,250 \$99,250
Total Special Revenue Funds	Personnel Nonpersonnel Total	5,244,374 2,346,194 7,590,568
Debt Se	ervice Funds	
324 General Bond Retirement	Personnel Nonpersonnel Total	0 855,200 \$855,200
329 Montgomery Quarter TIF Fund	Personnel Nonpersonnel Total	966,893 \$966,893
331 Vintage Club TIF Fund	Personnel Nonpersonnel Total	0 2,421,636 \$2,421,636
332 Vintage Club North TIF Fund	Personnel Nonpersonnel	0 626,557

	Total	\$626,557
Total Debt Service Funds	Personnel	0
Total Don't Go! Vice I willed	Nonpersonnel	4,870,286
	Total	4,870,286
Capital	Projects Funds	
410 Capital Improvements	Personnel	0
• • •	Nonpersonnel	5,016,990
	Total	\$5,016,990
460 Heritage District Fund (Urban Redevelopment)	Personnel	0
	Nonpersonnel	39,000
	Total	\$39,000
461 Triangle Equivalent TIF Fund	Personnel	0
	Nonpersonnel	178,100
	Total	\$178,100
463 Vintage Club Capital Construction Fund	Personnel	0
	Nonpersonnel	300,000
	Total	\$300,000
464 Montgomery Quarter Construction Fund	Personnel	0
404 Monigolicity addition obligation i and	Nonpersonnel	95,000
	Total	\$95,000
480 Downtown Improvements	Personnel	0
	Nonpersonnel Total	2,400,550 \$2,400,550
Total Conital Business France	Personnel	0
Total Capital Projects Funds	Nonpersonnel	8,029,640
	Total	8,029,640
Fide	uciary Funds	
875 Compensated Absence	Personnel	50,000
	Nonpersonnel	0
	Total	\$50,000
546 Trust Reimbursements	Personnel	0
	Nonpersonnel	100,000
	Total	\$100,000
601 State Fees	Personnel	0
	Nonpersonnel	17,000
	Total	\$17,000
840 Cemetery Expendable Trust	Personnel	0
	Nonpersonnel	111,850
	Total	\$111,850
890 Unclaimed Moneys Fund	Personnel	0
	Nonpersonnel	700
	Total	\$700
Total Fiduciary Funds	Personnel	50,000
	Nonpersonnel	229,550
	Total	279,550

Nonpersonnel Total

City of Montgomery 1 2 City Council Special Session Minutes 3 September 14, 2023 4 5 6 City Council Members Present Present Craig Margolis, Mayor 7 Brian Riblet, City Manager Lee Ann Bissmeyer, Vice Mayor 8 Tracy Henao, Asst. City Manager 9 Mike Cappel John Crowell, Chief of Police Chris Dobrozsi 10 Paul Wright, Fire Chief Ron Messer 11 Maura Gray, Finance Director Sasha Naiman 12 Matthew Vanderhorst, Community and Information Services Director Ken Suer 13 Mike Rogers, Asst. Public Works Director 14 Dan Miller, Public Works Supervisor 15 Julie Machon, Recreation Director 16 Connie Gaylor, Clerk of Council 17 Derek Morgan, Finance Specialist 18 Greg Vonden Benken, Asst. Police Chief 19 Kenney Bertz, Police Sargeant 20 21 **Council Candidates** 22 Tammy Moore 23 Catherine Mills Reynolds 24 Martha Shields 25 26 Guests 27 Sam Lieberman-Baker Tilly 28 29

City Council convened in Council Chambers for the Special Budget Review Session at 5:30 p.m. with Mayor Margolis presiding.

Mayor Margolis asked for a motion to dispense of roll call as all members were present. Mr. Cappel made the motion. Vice Mayor Bissmeyer seconded. City Council unanimously agreed.

Mayor Margolis thanked staff for their work in the preparation of the 2024 Operating and Capital Budgets.

Mr. Riblet thanked all Department Heads and their staff for their time in compiling and reviewing the 2024-2028 budgets and for striving to be good stewards of the city's resources. Mr. Riblet extended a special thank you to Derek Morgan and the Finance Department staff in capturing changes and putting together well-presented budget books. Mr. Riblet also introduced Mr. Sam Lieberman from Baker Tilly who developed the financial tool used in the evening presentations. He thanked Mr. Lieberman for his assistance in utilizing the tool to demonstrate the City's financial condition and forecasting.

Mayor Margolis asked Mr. Riblet and Ms. Gray to proceed with their budget presentations.

Review of the 2024 Operating and Capital Budget

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Ms. Gray presented an overview of the 2024-2028 Operating and Capital Improvement Budget.

Ms. Gray provided a summary of the anticipated 2024 beginning and ending balances as shown below:

City Council Special Session Minutes September 14, 2023 Page 2.

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FISCAL YEAR 2024 ALL FUNDS BUDGET

		ESTIMATED		
	BEGINNING BALANCE	REVENUES	ESTIMATED EXPENSES	ENDING BALANCE
GENERAL FUND	\$ 14,908,493	\$ 15,313,939	\$ 13,697,709	\$ 16,524,723
SPECIAL REVENUE FUNDS	19,109,293	7,893,992	7,590,568	19,412,717
DEBT SERVICE FUNDS	5,472,180	4,389,000	4,870,286	4,990,894
CAPITAL PROJECT FUNDS	9,070,882	4,036,300	8,029,640	5,077,542
FIDUCIARY FUNDS	1,089,250	212,594	279,550	1,022,294
TOTAL BUDGET	\$ 49,650,098	\$ 31,845,825	\$ 34,467,753	\$ 47,028,170

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Revenues Estimates

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Ms. Gray stated that the 2024 Operating and Capital Budget includes a few revenue assumptions as listed below:

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- Earnings Tax estimate of \$13.5 million is a 5% increase over FY 2023 due to increased collections in 2023.
- Real Estate Taxes are estimated to be at 3% above 2023 collections.
- All other revenue sources to remain relatively flat over the next five years.

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Expenditures Assumptions

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Ms. Gray explained that total personnel estimates are in line with current union agreements and include a 3.75% COLA in FY 2024. She explained that non-personnel line items such as contractual services, materials and supplies for the General Fund have increased an average of 11%. This average is higher than usual due to the addition of RITA processing fees.

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General Fund Budget

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Ms. Gray explained the following details for the revenue and expenditures in the General Fund.

• FY 2024 General Fund Revenues and transfers-in are about 5% higher than the original FY 2023 Budget due to actual FY 2023 collections trending above estimates. This includes the updated earnings tax projection to include 5% of receipts diverted to the General Bond

Retirement Fund to save dollars to pay off the bond anticipation notes at an accelerated pace.

The 2023 General Fund estimated expenditures (excludes transfers out) increased by \$1.3 million or 11% year over year due to cost-of-living adjustments for staff, increased materials and supplies cost in department budgets and RITA processing fees.

The budget includes staffing all positions at 100% of cost so any vacancies will generate budget savings while the position is recruited and ultimately filled.

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Capital Improvement Fund

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Ms. Gray and Mr. Riblet provided the following details regarding the Capital Improvement Fund.

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City Parks Fund 410- FY 2024 includes replacement of playground equipment.

City Council Special Session Minutes September 14, 2023 Page 3.

General Government-Fleet management program includes expenditure of \$575,000.

<u>Street Maintenance and Repair-</u>Annual street asphalt overlay determined by pavement rating analysis estimated at \$1.2 million.

Roundabout Hardscape/Landscape Project

The FY 2024 Budget includes 2.4 million for the proposed hardscape and landscaping associated with the roundabout at Montgomery Road and Cross County Highway.

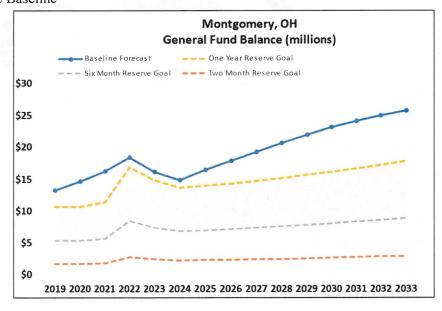
Fund Balance Policy

Ms. Gray provided a summary and forecast of the fund balance policy as depicted below:

City of Montgomery General Fund Budget Summary Fiscal Year 2024

Projected Beginning Balance	14,908,493
Estimated Revenues and Transfers In	15,313,939
Estimated Expenditures and Transfers Out	13,697,709
Variance	1,616,230
Projected Ending Balance	16,524,723
6 Months Reserve Policy	6,848,855
Unreserved Fund Balance	9.675.869

Fund Balance Baseline



City Council Special Session Minutes September 14, 2023 Page 4.

Fund Balance Policy - Other Funds

- Capital Improvement Fund 410 established at \$1,000,000
- Street Maintenance and Repair Fund 261
- Arts and Amenities Fund 485 (established at \$376,237, equivalent to two substantial restricted bequests to the fund)
- Fire/EMS Levy Fund 223 (established as six twelve months of operating expenditures)

FUND	DESCRIPTION	POLICY	PRO	JECTED BALANCE 2028	POLICY MET	PAGE NUMBER
223	FIRE/EMS FUND	6-12 MO OPERATING EXP	\$	15,902,973	YES	52
261	STREET MAINTENANCE & REPAIR	NO POLICY	\$	1,338,885	N/A	58
410	CAPITAL IMPROVEMENT	\$1,000,000	\$	2,747,971	YES	71
485	ARTS AND AMENITIES	RESTRICTED BEQUESTS OF \$376,237	\$	555,076	YES	65

10-year General Fund Forecast Scenarios

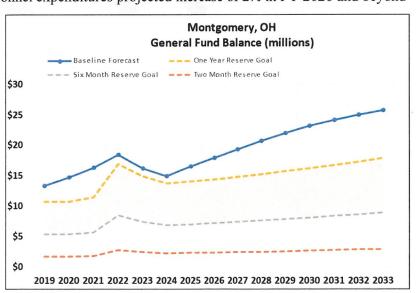
Mr. Riblet continued the discussion of fund balance baselines with a ten year forecast. He stated that baseline assumptions regarding revenue and expenses are as follows:

Revenues:

- •Earnings Tax annual growth of 2.75%
- •Real Estate Property Taxes annual growth of 3%
- •All other revenue types are a 1% annual growth
- Conservative estimates below historic results

Expenditures:

- •Salaries increase at 3.75% for FY 2025, 3% for FY 2026 and beyond
- •Healthcare projected to increase 10% annually
- •Non-personnel expenditures projected increase of 2% in FY 2026 and beyond



City Council Special Session Minutes September 14, 2023 Page 5.

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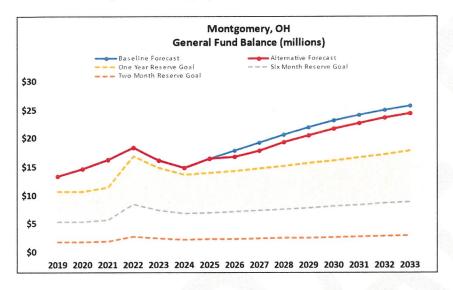
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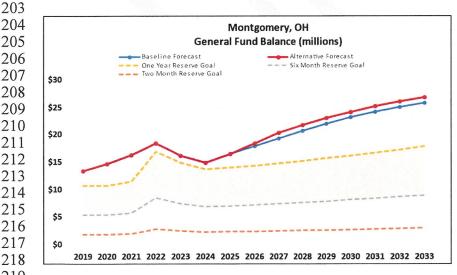
Mr. Riblet noted that projected revenues outpace projected expenditures resulting in an upward sloping curve. This projection does not factor in any budget savings which has resulted in 8%-13% savings, or \$949,000-\$1,740,000 annually, that is returned to fund balance. This projection also does not factor in any earnings taxes increase resulting from various developments being completed in the coming years. Even with these conservative estimates, the fund balance is projected above the one-year reserve goal and growing throughout the model timeframe.

Mr. Riblet explained that staff has factored in a possible recession that results in 10% earnings tax decrease in FY 2025, 0% growth in FY 2026, recovers to 2.75% growth in FY 2027 and beyond. All other assumptions remain the same. This is depicted in the graph below:



Mr. Riblet explained that even with a 10% drop in earnings taxes, the projection still shows significantly exceeding the one-year fund balance policy. The baseline forecast in blue is based on a conservative earnings tax increase assumption. This is important to note because actual collections in 2023 are trending about 14.4% over the prior year actual collections.

Mr. Riblet stated that the financial tool predicts that Earnings Tax increases 5% in FY 2025 and FY 2026 then settles back to 2.75%. He stated all other assumptions remain the same.

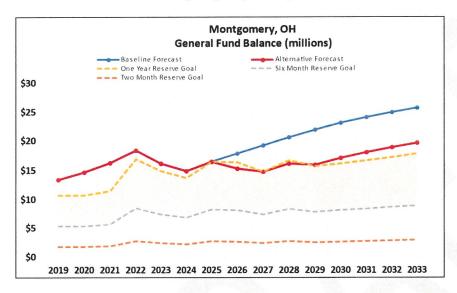


City Council Special Session Minutes September 14, 2023 Page 6.

Mr. Riblet explained that potential capital investments using General Fund Reserves of:

- \$2.5M in FY 2025
- \$2M in FY 2026
- \$1.5M in FY 2028

Mr. Riblet explained the following graph that illustrates the general fund balance based on the City paying \$6 million towards capital investments between FY 2025 and FY 2028. He added that using the \$6 million results in remaining above the one-year reserve goal through 2033. He stated there is capacity to increase capital investments and remain above the six-month reserve goal policy through 2033.



Mr. Lieberman of Baker Tilly explained to City Council and Staff that the Government Finance Officers Association's (GFOA) recommendation to local governments is to have two months of funds in reserve. He stated that to the credit of Council and Administration, the city is in wonderful shape. He stated that Council should be proud of the stewardship demonstrated by staff. He stated that staff are always very conservative in their budgeting. He explained that the assumptions detailed in the graphs do not consider that staff would likely reduce costs in a year where revenues fall short of expenditures.

Mr. Riblet and Ms. Gray concluded their presentations at which time staff and Council continued through each department's budget lines and discussed 2023 accomplishments and 2024 requests.

Mr. Dobrozsi left the meeting at 6:45 p.m.

City Council thanked all staff for their continued good work of delivering a budget with a conservative approach to spending. They stated that it is this perspective that has preserved that targeted fund balances and reserves needed when facing possible economic downturns.

OTHER BUSINESS

Mayor Margolis asked if there was any further business to discuss in Public Session. There being none, he asked for a motion to adjourn.

Mr. Messer moved to adjourn. Vice Mayor Bissmeyer seconded. City Council unanimously agreed.

The Special Budget Review Session of City Council adjourned at 7:57 p.m.

City Council Special Session Minutes September 14, 2023 Page 7.

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260	Connie Gaylor, Clerk of Council



City of Montgomery City Council Work Session Minutes 2 3 September 20, 2023 4 5 City Council Members Present Present 6 Craig Margolis, Mayor Brian Riblet, City Manager Lee Ann Bissmeyer, Vice Mayor 7 Terry Donnellon, Law Director Chris Dobrozsi 8 Tracy Henao, Asst. City Manager Kevin Chesar, Community Development Director 9 Ron Messer John Crowell, Police Chief Sasha Naiman 10 11 Maura Gray, Finance Director Ken Suer Gary Heitkamp, Public Works Director 12 Paul Wright, Fire Chief 13 Matthew Vanderhorst, Community and Information Services Director 14 Council Member Absent Amy Frederick, Community Engagement Coordinator 15 Mike Cappel Connie Gaylor, Clerk of Council 16 17 18 City Council convened its Work Session for September 20, 2023 at 6:00 p.m. at City Hall with Mayor Margolis 19 presiding.

20 21 **ROLL CALL**

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The roll was called with all members present except for Mr. Cappel. Mr. Dobrozsi moved to excuse Mr. Cappel's absence. Vice Mayor Bissmeyer seconded. City Council unanimously agreed.

SPECIAL PRESENTATIONS

Beth Sullebarger was presented with a Certificate of Appreciation in recognition of her years serving as a consultant to the Landmarks Commission.

GUESTS AND RESIDENTS

LEGISLATION FOR CONSIDERATION THIS EVENING

There was no legislation for consideration at the meeting.

ESTABLISHING AN AGENDA FOR OCTOBER 4, 2023 BUSINESS SESSION

PENDING LEGISLATION

There was no pending legislation for consideration at this meeting.

NEW LEGISLATION

A Resolution Accepting the Amounts and Rates as Determined by The Budget Commission and Authorizing the Necessary Tax Levies and Certifying Them to The County Auditor

Mayor Margolis assigned the legislation to Mr. Suer.

Ms. Gray explained that, if approved, this Resolution will accept the rates and amounts determined by the Hamilton County Budget Commission. As a State of Ohio taxing authority and pursuant to the Ohio Revised Code, the City is required to adopt an annual tax budget. City Council adopted the Tax Budget on July 5, 2023, and then submitted it to the Hamilton County Auditor for review by that office and the Hamilton County Budget Commission. Those reviews did not generate any questions and the proposed Tax Budget was accepted by the Budget Commission and

City Council Work Session Minutes September 20, 2023 Page 2

Auditor. City Council is requested to act to accept the Budget Commission's rates and amounts, which would result in the estimated collections as specified in the City's 2024 Tax Budget. This action will then permit the Budget Commission to collect property taxes at the rates established for the upcoming year.

An Ordinance to Make Appropriations for Current Expenses and Other Expenditures of the City of Montgomery, State of Ohio During the Fiscal Year Ending December 31, 2024

Mayor Margolis assigned the legislation to Mr. Suer.

Ms. Gray explained that, if approved, this Ordinance will establish the City's budget for fiscal year 2024. These documents were presented to and reviewed with City Council at the September 14 Budget Review meeting. As a result of these discussions, any changes to the budget will be forthcoming and will be presented to City Council prior to the final reading on December 6, 2023.

Mr. Dobrozsi stated that he will recuse himself from the discussion and vote on this legislation as it includes funding for the Montgomery Quarter development which he recuses any and all legislation related to the development.

ADMINISTRATION REPORT

Mr. Riblet reported the following items:

- City Council Business Session is scheduled for October 4 at 6:00 p.m.
- Several staff members will be travelling to Austin, Texas on the normally scheduled Committee meetings on Monday, October 2. He explained that there were no items for Law and Safety or the Planning, Zoning and Landmarks Committees, and requested that if Financial Planning were to be held it could be rescheduled to the October 9 Committee meeting date.
- An update for the scheduling of the Parks and Recreation, Government Affairs and Public Works Committees will be provided at the October 4 Business Session.
- Staff are requesting that a Public Hearing be scheduled for Wednesday, November 1 prior to the City Council Business Session beginning at 5:30 p.m. to consider three items. City Council approved and Vice Mayor Bissmeyer made a motion to commence with the Business Session immediately following the conclusion of the Public Hearing. Mrs. Naiman seconded. City Council unanimously agreed.
- Ms. Frederick reports that MCLA 2024 registrations are up to 12, she continues to recruit candidates.
- Public Works are in their second week of fall chipping. They are also in the process of replacing all the summer flowers with mums. They have 800 yellow and 300 red mums to plant.
- The construction for the Rambler Hotel officially began this week.
- The Development Team reports that the Pepsi Company will be relocating from the Mason area to occupy half of the first floor of building 2B at the MQ. The Fortune 100 Company will bring 80-85 executive employees to the space. They are planning to occupy their new offices in March 2024.

City Council Work Session Minutes September 20, 2023

Page 3

Human Resources

• New Firefighter/Paramedics, Jeffrey Wurtz and Tyler Billman, began their employment with the City this week.

Events

• The Environmental Advisory Commission will hold its annual One Stop Drop recycling event this Saturday from 10 am to 1 pm at the Public Works Facility. A reminder that this event will not include shredding services.

• The Annual Car Show rolls in to town this Saturday. This popular event will be held at the Montgomery Square Plaza from 4:00 to 7:00 pm.

• A Know Your Neighbor presentation will be held on Thursday, September 28 at 6:00 pm at Terwilliger Lodge. Juan Molina, Montgomery resident and member of the Diversity and Inclusion Commission, will share information about the true meaning of the Mexican celebration *Día de los Muertos*, *Day of the Dead*.

• The First Annual Amazing Montgomery Race will be held on Saturday September 30, from 2:00-5:00 pm beginning at Weller Park.

Mr. Riblet requested an Executive Session to consider the employment of a public employee.

LAW DIRECTOR REPORT

Mr. Donnellon reported that as the referendum period has passed for the amendment to the development agreement, the kickoff to Stage 2 of the MQ development is taking place.

CITY COUNCIL REPORTS

Mr. Cappel

Mr. Cappel was absent from the meeting.

Vice Mayor Bissmeyer

Vice Mayor Bissmeyer thanked staff for a wonderful Vegas in the Village event.

Mr. Dobrozsi

Mr. Dobrozsi reported the Arts Commission met and are working on Live at the Uni concerts. He stated they are scheduled for October 10, October 24, and November 14. He added that there would also be a holiday concert featuring Mandy Gaines. The Arts Commission is continuing to plan a Food Tour in hopes of holding it next year.

Mr. Dobrozsi reported that Sister Cities met and is looking at the Soire en Blanc event that was cancelled and is discussing rebranding it to a different type of event, held at a different time in the year in hopes of drawing in more attendance.

Mr. Dobrozsi reported that at the last Government Affairs meeting, the Committee discussed with staff scheduling all council meetings to be the first and third Wednesdays of each month rather than changing the Work Session

City Council Work Session Minutes

September 20, 2023

Page 4

meeting dates on five-week months. He stated that holidays would certainly be observed but this change would reduce confusion on when the Work Sessions were being held. He stated that the Committee agreed on this and it was a Committee recommendation. He asked City Council for a motion of support.

Mr. Messer made a motion to schedule all Work Session meetings on the third Wednesday of each month unless a holiday falls on that Wednesday which then could be rescheduled. Vice Mayor Bissmeyer seconded. City Council unanimously agreed.

Mrs. Naiman

Mrs. Naiman stated that she attended a Sycamore Advisory Council meeting, the first of the school year.

Mrs. Naiman reported that the Beautification and Tree Commission met and are planning the Fall Plant Swap being held on Saturday, September 30 at the Montgomery Farmers Market. She added that they are also working on the planning for the October B & T Talk.

Mrs. Naiman reported that the Parks and Recreation Commission met. She explained that they recently held two events: a Movie in the Park at Weller Park and also the Star Party, both were very successful events. She added that they are working on the final details of the Amazing Montgomery Race.

Mrs. Naiman reported that the Diversity and Inclusion Commission is holding a Know Your Neighbor Presentation on Thursday, September 28 at 6:00 p.m. at Terwilliger Lodge.

Mr. Suer

Mr. Suer asked for details about the Amazing Race as he was asked to be a judge.

Ms. Tammy Moore, Chair of the Parks and Recreation Commission was in attendance and provided details of the event.

Mr. Suer also complimented staff on the efficient Budget Review meeting and process.

Mr. Messer

Mr. Messer echoed Mr. Suer's sentiments on the Budget Review meeting and process.

Mr. Messer provided details of a Hamilton County Partners in Preparedness meeting he attended along with Mayor Margolis and Fire Chief Paul Wright largely focused on hazardous materials.

Mayor Margolis

Mayor Margolis reported that he attended an International Facility Management Association (IFMA) Cincinnati Chapter, meeting held at the Montgomery Quarter. He explained that Mr. Riblet and Mr. Mike Doty of Brandicorp presented on the Montgomery Quarter project. He stated the presentation included a tour of the apartments and development and was a great representation of the City's vision.

MINUTES

Mr. Messer moved to accept the September 6, 2023; Business Session minutes as written. Vice Mayor Bissmeyer seconded. City Council unanimously agreed.

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MAYORS COURT REPORT

205206

Vice Mayor Bissmeyer made a motion to accept the August 2023 Mayors Court Report to disburse \$7,205. Mr. Messer seconded. City Council unanimously agreed.

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OTHER BUSINESS

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There was no other business.

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EXECUTIVE SESSION

214215

Mayor Margolis stated that there would be a short recess before adjourning into Executive Session for matters related to the employment of a public employee. Council adjourned into recess at 6:50 p.m.

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ADJOURNMENT

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Council reconvened from Executive Session into Public Session at 7:09 p.m.

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Mayor Margolis asked if there was any further business to discuss in the Public Session. There being none he asked for a motion to adjourn.

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Vice Mayor Bissmeyer moved to adjourn. Mr. Messer seconded. City Council unanimously agreed.

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City Council adjourned at 7:09 p.m.

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Connie Gaylor, Clerk of Council